

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: BRAUN-8

In re Application of:)
)
MATTHIAS BRAUN et al.)
)
Filed: Simultaneously Herewith)
)
For: COVER FOR AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Date of Deposit: **February 6, 2004**

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450".

ANTONELLA FUSILLO

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[Signature]

S I R:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references A) to B) which are cited in the instant specification and references C) to D). Applicant does not admit that any of the cited documents constitutes prior art against the pending application.

	Country:	Patent or Appl. No:	Patentee or Applicant:	Issue or Filing Date:
A)	Germany	DE 43 04 032 C2	Dr. J. Heidenhain	08-18-1994
B)	Europe	EP 0 776 065 A1	Dr. J. Heidenhain	05-28-1997
C)	Germany	DE 44 41 230 A1	Alcatel	05-23-1996
D)	Germany	DE 44 14 820 A1	Vorwerk & Co. Int.	11-02-1995

Copies of these references are submitted herewith along with form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 1.53(d), so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 1.491 in an international application, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the issuance of a first office but before issuance of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing of a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.

☐ The undersigned submits the following statement requesting consideration of this statement:

The undersigned hereby states:

☐ That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

☐ The fee of \$180.00 set forth in 1.17(p).

☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee as set forth in 1.17(p), and any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

In addition, applicant notes with respect to any information that is not in English language as follows:

Reference C) describes a housing (1) which holds at least one pressure sensitive connecting cable (4) and provides strain relief for at least one pressure sensitive connecting cable and which has a housing wall portion (2) with an opening (3) through which the at least one connecting cable (4) can be passed into the housing (1). The housing (1) has a holding comb (22) therein, which includes an angle member (5) having tangs or projections (7). The tangs or projections (7) are loosely fitted into additional openings (8) formed in the housing wall portion (2). The holding comb (22) also has tines (10) for respectively securing one of the connecting cables (4) using a heat shrinkable tube (11) to a respective one of the tines (10). The holding comb (22) is underlaid with an elastic cushion member (12) and the holding comb (22) with the connecting cables secured thereto is held, between the elastic cushion member (12) and another elastic cushion member (21) positioned in a cap (13), when the cap (13) is suspended, by two hooks (15) located on an end portion thereof, in corresponding further openings or slits (16) formed in the housing wall portion (2) and then the cap is fixed to the housing wall portion (2) by a tab portion (18) provided on an end portion (18) of the cap (13).

Reference D) describes a recess (7) forming a flat cylindrical cavity and receiving a flexible connecting lead (6) of the appliance. Its depth, t , is less than twice the diameter, d , of the cable. The lead is pulled out through an approximately central opening (10), on the flat side of the recess (7). A tapered guide bulge (11)

within the recess projects towards, and is offset slightly from, the opening (10). This offset, v , is approximately one half of the cable diameter. The cable is said to spiral itself within the casing, filling the outer diameters first, when pushed in through the hole (10), and to pull out in the reverse manner. Within the recess (7) the lead passes the small edge region (13') and enters the base opening (23) via the labyrinthine path, continuing through into the appliance proper. The offset is to one side of the small region (13'). When built-in, the open recess is covered flush by one of the casing walls (1) of the appliance.

The above-identified application discloses and claims an invention patentable over this prior art.

Entry of the references above set forth into the file of the above application is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

By: 

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Form PTO-1449U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION****Attorney's Docket No.****BRAUN-8****Applicant****MATTHIAS BRAUN et al.****Appl. No.****Filing Date****Group****Examiner****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date, if appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation
	DE 43 04 032 C2	08-18-1994	Germany			no
	EP 0 776 065 A1	05-28-1997	Europe			no
	DE 44 41 230 A1	05-23-1996	Germany			no
	DE 44 14 820 A1	11-02-1995	Germany			no

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner:**Date considered:**

*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.